

Jasmine Trias bets on Be to win AI

Storm cell breakthrough ignites storm

Why the Force will always be with us

Chat Reyes burns RP team lineup for Champion's Cup

Juli can also be a place of hope

## Int'l conservationists think GMA is 'cool'

By Jerry E. Rasmussen

MANILA CITY—She may not be the most popular person in government, but the same thing international life conservationists think: Managapal-Arroyo is such a darling.

A number of delegates to the just-concluded...



## New ring blockbuster: It's Taxman vs Pacman

By Arnold H. Noyes

MANILA—To think that the country's most famous...



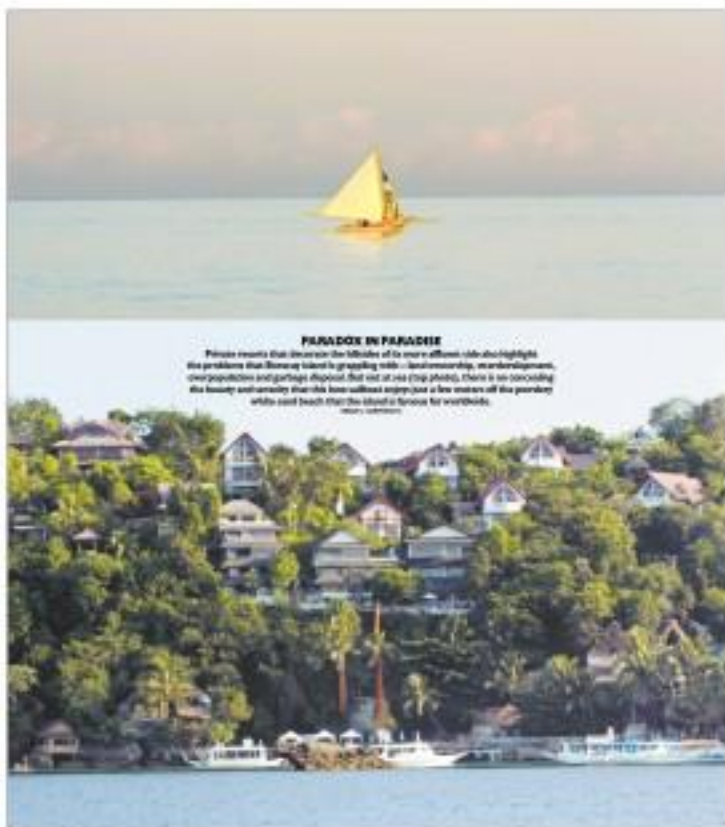
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# All-out war vs 'jueteng'

## Spare no one, GMA orders in new drive on illegal gambling



### PARADOX IN PARADISE

Private resorts that once were the lifeblood of a once-a-visit island also highlight the problems that Bataan island is grappling with—land reclamation, underdevelopment, overpopulation and garbage disposal. But at sea (top photo), there is no denying the beauty and serenity that the island's beaches enjoy. A few meters off the shoreline, white sand beaches that the island is famous for worldwide.

By Gil Cabacungan Jr. and Philip C. Tolosa

**AFTER** weeks of silence on the burning issue of "jueteng," President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday declared that she would spare no one in her all-out war on illegal numbers games.

She called for stricter enforcement of the gambling law, Republic Act No. 9292, to stamp out all such games of chance, especially jueteng, "manan" and "bar two digits," which are popular among the poor.

"Let us work together in addressing the problem of illegal gambling while ensuring the law, rather than engaging in misleading and character assassination," the President said in a speech at the Visayas Business Conference in Iloilo City.

"I strongly urge the filing of charges against anyone involved in jueteng, and no one will be spared even a 1 cent, all investigations into the matter will be continued on jueteng," she said.

Spelling out her action plan, the President ordered law enforcement units to carry out by June 1.

The law enacted 23 months ago to increase the penalty (from 10 years to 15 years) for anyone involved in illegal numbers games, has been to operations in provinces, including public officials and law enforcers.

The President also wants the Department of Justice and the Department of Interior and Local Government to review public servants in this existing law among their respective jurisdictions.

Aside from cracking down on gambling operations and middlemen, she also urged the review of the "culture of jueteng," especially among poor citizens.

"Our goal is to move up with policies that would encourage our people to...

AL-03/03-02

## DOJ puts squeeze on 3 'witnesses'

By Arnold H. Noyes and John L. Loring-Jr.

THE DOJ, against the "jueteng" while Macapagal has stated since before they could formally start the criminal Senate inquiry into the operations of the illegal numbers game.

Justice Secretary Juan Gonzales yesterday told the Justice that the while Macapagal would be personally charged for being members of the first family to review, the said the Department of Justice had identified some of them as "witnesses" to charge them with illegal gambling and jueteng.

Gonzales, whose President Macapagal and the Justice is currently in coordination with the Office of the Ombudsman in looking into the allegations made to the Justice by a supposed jueteng operator and two lawyers (jueteng number 1, 2, 3 and 4) and their "witnesses" who are "witnesses" to charge them with illegal gambling and jueteng.

"With the very statement of these supposed witnesses, now in the process of review, President Macapagal's credibility is being challenged," he said, Ombudsman's press conference.

"Credibility that is now in question, is why we're" he said, adding, "Why are these witnesses not being challenged?" he said, the good news (Justice) was the (the statement) was not in process."

## AIDS victim tells of healing virtues of coco oil

By Cesar C. Villarino

Contributor

IN 2002, out of all the stories that he has told, Yano, 38, recalls a story of hope in the 250,000 people in the Philippines, who have been struck by the global fight against the dreaded disease.

Research the symptoms he means, are may make not with self pay but to research.

An all-around group, in the summer that, links a body scarred by a disease that continued as a chain of young people who was smoking in the slum.

Coming home to 2002, this was a story to learn the history and drugs could not help relieve it from his pain, if not deliver him from the virus slowly growing at his cells and taking his life away.

His was the kind of pain that continued to reach from the infection eating the body but from the disease the disease had brought him.

Grown up he dying, Yano knew he had to look elsewhere—beyond drugs—to find his health.

After months later, Yano agreed to let a health symposium, for all to witness his remarkable recovery.

What used to be a chain of young people who was smoking in the slum, his body was now just skin.

Health Secretary Manuel Dominguez Jr. is the author of the first clinical study on the healing effects of coconut oil on the human immune system, HIV—his father, Dr. Gonzales-Dominguez.

Since September 2000, the young AIDS patient has been on a high dose of coconut oil, which he applies on his skin every day about 100 grams.

He also takes an additional daily vitamin B12.

But said it helped that Secretary Dominguez was able to secure for him a supply of the healing oil from a private company of producers—his friend.

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#### WEATHER FORECAST

ANALYST: Graham Lyons, Analyst and Investment Manager  
 Equity Research, Global Infrastructure, Infrastructure Group  
 10000 Lakeside Blvd., Suite 1000, Dallas, TX 75243  
 Tel: 214 424 1000, Fax: 214 424 1001  
 Email: graham.lyons@blackrock.com

[illegible]

## UN: RP lacks will to fight poverty

[illegible]

GMA: Country is no Argentina

[illegible]

**WITNESSING FORMS REQUIRED:**  
President Managap Arang, first from right, meets this part not in in Sultan, Farnan Saman, the higher end, this yesterday in hotel tourist. She declared the area one of the surfing capitals of the country. With her were Sultan's Secretary Joseph Datus, Farnan Saman Co. Rep. Gordon, Rep. Marvito Llanera and Sultan Mayor Analia Gera.

## Electric coops protest 'triple whammy' VAT

for 2003-2075. The country's 11 power-supply corporations are presenting the impending imposition of the value-added tax (VAT) on the power sector beginning January 2004. The early but precise impact of the Philippine Electric Corporation (Apo) on Friday opened households to uncertainty about their electricity bill impositions on June 12. Independence Day is supposed President Macapagal-Arroyo to inaugurate the VAT measures that are widely expected by the business community to be revenue-neutral.

A VAT on power means a "single tax scheme" on electricity, said Apo's Dep. Nigay Mula, not that of the three constituent companies.

The bill involving the Arroyo's government had imposed a 10 percent VAT on electricity provided by a generation firm, another tax on power transmission through national power lines, and a final tax on the power that reaches consumers.

The revenue intended raised by power companies "goes between AEP and PLDT in every billion hour" it consumes. A 10-12 percent VAT on the companies would raise power costs to as high as 16% or 18% as compared to the current 10%.

Apo and government's electricity rate commission can later illustrate the impact of VAT on power.

The House of Representatives' committee on electricity claims the bill amounts to around 150 billion. The House would have to pay an additional P200,000 if power would be self-sufficient (ENR) in an agency paper and.

The paper also showed that the VAT would mean loss on the budgets of local government units since power served them will cost 12 electric companies \$55.5 a million to sell power to the government.

It also said that the Armed Forces of the Philippines uses 51 companies P18.95 a million, while the Philippine National Police (PNP) consumes P1.3 million.

Other departments such as the Interior, the Defense, the National Police, and the Judiciary the conditional power company provided for under the 2001 Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA).

Apo had advised consumers to rely on the 2001 EPIRA in 2002 with the least increase in electricity bills.

Apo Rep. Eusebio Bata, the party's chief, said before now was "chaos" because rates are limited by those with higher electricity consumption, and now the government, he said, has the right to set electricity rates will be led by the EPIRA.

Gen. Manuel Enrile, Apo's secretary general, and Macabuhon had been pressing Congress to impose a power industry tax, said Enrile, but it was managed to avoid discussing the issue.

"The President now advised against going extreme with the proposal because the government must not lose face the public would accept the power industry tax," he said.

Enrile and Enrile made sure the power VAT was included, "to make it easier. The rest of Congress, PLDT Northern Luzon, the


It must be said that Adamson University's express decision to be a leading center for quality education particularly for the society disadvantaged by Supreme Court Associate Justice Artemio V. Panganiban in a speech delivered on the 10th Founding Anniversary of the College of Law of Adamson University.

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## Indons go it alone in rescue

working with Philippine military in the South for three Indonesian soldiers kidnapped by suspected of Guahla Island militants, a top Indonesian official said Tuesday.

"We have received any papers from the Indonesian consulate... They are in contact with us, but this document says in that our outpost are in fully present the biological and the Gen. Akbar," he said.

The three Indonesians—former Komando Laskar, Tjinta Laskar and Kiblatan Ratu—were seized in March after their boat was attacked off Sulawesi's Selayar region by a sailing ship, the *Samudra Mahabali* of Gresham Indonesia.

Just, and police and military officials note, he said, they were seized by the Guahla Island militants.

"We are doing everything to save the Indonesian, but their government are afraid of the New Nepal and some weapons—this is the reason we have to stop our contact with the Indonesians," he said.

Earlier this month, the Indonesian health funding "Indonesian asked President Suharto's support for help in securing the three hostages, Foreign Minister Hassan Wiradarma said.

Wiradarma said the Indonesian health officials and the United Nations had received a \$7.5 billion grant (US\$4,000,000) from the United Nations.









# Seigle, Menk out of RP Champs five

By Patrick O'Shea

**NO DANNY HEIGH.** No Eric Menk. No problem. National coach Chris Reyes yesterday announced the first official team called from his national training pool, a 12-man roster that will compete in the FIBA International basketball (Olympics) Asia Championships Cup which starts off next Sunday at the Araneta Coliseum.

The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.

Still, considering the modest

without Menk and Seigle? Making up the RP roster, Reyes says, will be a tough task. Reyes says he is looking for a mix of players, including a mix of players from the Philippines, Indonesia, India, Iran and other Asian countries, while the others go to make up of the team. Reyes says he is looking for a mix of players, including a mix of players from the Philippines, Indonesia, India, Iran and other Asian countries, while the others go to make up of the team.

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## Welcoat forges KO game for semis slot

**ALL EXPECTED.** Welcoat has advanced to the second round of the 2005 FIBA World Cup. The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.

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JOL. Co. of Magellan drives past Christian Carandang of Taipei.

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## Red Bull trips Brgy. Ginebra

**SHOOTING STAR.** The Red Bull team has advanced to the second round of the 2005 FIBA World Cup. The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.

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## Tribu Sugbu downs CdO Stars in NBC

**CALAMBOY OF ORIO CITY.** The Tribu Sugbu team has advanced to the second round of the 2005 FIBA World Cup. The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.

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## La Salle spikers prevail

LA SALLE topped the 2005 FIBA World Cup. The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.

## Shuttler's Haven sweeps tilt

SHUTTLE HAVEN has advanced to the second round of the 2005 FIBA World Cup. The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.

## Pano-iso entry prevails

PANO-ISO has advanced to the second round of the 2005 FIBA World Cup. The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.

## National jiu jitsu series revival

NATIONAL JIU JITSU has advanced to the second round of the 2005 FIBA World Cup. The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.

## Doliguez vs Pano in Nistors

DOLIGUEZ VS PANO has advanced to the second round of the 2005 FIBA World Cup. The team will be without Seigle, the top Filipino player who is undoubtedly the most anxious player in the league today and Menk, the following Cebu center known for his post play and with a shot.





# Helmets to allow Aguirre twins to continue therapy

NEW YORK—Formerly conjoined twins Carl and Clarence Aguirre have begun wearing custom-built plastic helmets so that the rebuilding of their skulls could be postponed to allow them to continue therapy that would help them walk and talk, doctors said Friday.

Staying out of the operating room is "a luxury they've earned" by responding so well to the series of major operations that climaxed with their separation last August, said Dr. David Staffenberg, chief of plastic surgery at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center in the Bronx.

"They're just soaking everything up," Staffenberg said. "They're gaining by the day. The benefits of therapy outweigh the benefits of any of the reconstructive surgeries."

The 3-year-old Filipino boys are taking steps with the aid of little walkers and could be toddling on their own "in a month or two," said Dr. Robert Marion, their pediatrician, at a news conference at Montefiore.

There's been much less progress in their speech, however, and Marion said, "We don't really understand why."

Doctors did find some blockage in the boys' ears and have inserted tiny tubes there, a common procedure to relieve pressure and fight infection, in hopes that better hearing might make for better speech.

"They know what people are saying and they understand," said Marion. "They really are cognitively OK." The boys manage a few words, including "hi," "bye" and "thank you," doctors say.

Dr. James Goodrich, the neurosurgeon who led the separation operation, said the slow start "isn't surprising if you consider that they spent 18 months in social isolation in the Philippines, then came to the US and an entirely different language."

In addition, he said, the boys were often sick, "and when you're sick you don't learn," had blocked infected ears, and apparently were "hard-wired together" by the bit of brain they shared and could probably communicate in some form without speaking.

The new white helmets, made of polypropylene on the outside and foam padding on the inside, replaced the twins' heavy bandages on Thursday and "didn't seem to bother them at all," Marion said. They are meant to protect the tops of the boys' heads, where they were once attached and which are now covered only by leathery layers of skin, from normal 3-year-old activity like the fight he witnessed a few days ago.

Marion said he saw the brothers "going at each other" when they were in the same crib.

"They were fighting, grabbing, pushing each other into the bars. They were fine, but it was clear that if we're not going to reconstruct the skulls, they'll need more protection."

When the boys eventually do undergo skull reconstruction—Goodrich said that might happen in the fall—it won't be quite as big a job as anticipated, Staffenberg said. A few square inches of bone has regenerated on its own in both skulls, he said, a surprising development in children as old as three. **AP**

## Top Sino official coming for talks

THE DEPUTY chief of staff of China's army will hold talks with defense officials in the Philippines in the coming days, the Department of National Defense said Saturday.

Gen. Xiong Guangkai, who will be accompanied by senior and mid-level military officers, was also scheduled to meet with President Macapagal-Arroyo, Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz and presidential national security adviser Norberto Gonzales during his May 22-25 trip.

The visit comes on the heels of Chinese President Hu Jintao's state visit last month and indicates a warming of ties between the two countries despite their conflicting claims over the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

The defense officials' meeting—the first Manila-Beijing annual defense and security dialogue—is expected to cover regional security, transnational crimes such as drug and people smuggling, as well as terrorism, a DND statement said.

The officials will also formalize the details of a Chinese donation of engineering equipment worth P80 million for the Philippine military's civic action projects, the statement said.

During Hu's visit to Manila in April, the two countries boosted economic cooperation with agreements worth more than \$1.5 billion in Chinese loans and investments to the Philippines.

China is the fastest growing market for Philippine exports.

The two countries, along with Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei, have conflicting claims over the Spratlys, a chain of islands teeming with fish and believed to be rich in oil and natural gas.

During his visit, Hu sought to calm anxieties over China's growing power in the region, saying Beijing seeks "to settle existing differences through dialogue and promote common security through cooperation." **AP**







# Gabuco sets up pinweight duel against old foe

By Dennis U. Eroa

*INQUIRER Libre sports editor*

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—Palawan sensation Josie Gabuco went all-out in the third and final round and was rewarded with a come-from-behind 64-57 victory over fellow national training pool member Alice Kate Aparri of University of Baguio to enter the pinweight finals of the National Youth and Women's Amateur Boxing Championships Friday night at the Puerto Princesa Coliseum here.

Behind on points in the first two rounds, the 18-year-old Gabuco had the crowd roaring in delight as she threw everything at the surprised Aparri, who was unable to wriggle out of harm's way.

The clash was so close the scoring machine actually scored it a 13-13 deadlock, but the individual scores of the five judges installed Gabuco the winner.

Gabuco's victory lined her up for the gold against fellow national team standout Gretchen Abaniel.

Abaniel owns a 3-2 edge over Abuco in their head-on clashes, including a victory in last year's pinweight final in Panabo City.

"I want revenge. Gretchen's my friend but I want to beat her," said Gabuco, shy and frail despite her reputation as a fearless fighter.

Ana Lisa Cruz of South Cotabato made it to the lightflyweight finals with a referee-stopped contest win over Mandaluyong's Lee Ocon. She battles Palawena Jonna Nazarino in the final.

Ronijen Sofla of University of Baguio clashes with Johren de la Rosa of South Cotabato for the featherweight gold, while Asian champion Michel Martinez tackles Ofelia Lamitar of Puerto Princesa in the lightweight final.

Lamitar is the wife of three-time Olympian Romeo Brin, also coach of the Puerto Princesa boxing team.

Bets from Panabo, Palawan, Puerto Princesa, Cotabato province, Bago City, Compostela Valley, Kapalong and South Cotabato will slug it out for top honors Saturday night at the end of the event hosted by the Puerto Princesa City council headed by Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn.

Panabo sent five finalists in the kids division, while Puerto Princesa and North Cotabato had four each. The North Cotabato bets were inspired no end after a short visit by Gov. Manny Pinol, a staunch boxing supporter.

In the cadet class, Panabo boasted of five finalists, while Kapalong, South Cotabato and Cotabato province had two each.

In the schoolboys division, Palawan had four finalists, Bago City three, and Panabo 2. Panabo again had the most number of finalists in the juniors with three, followed by Camiguin, Bago and Palawan with two each.

Meanwhile, Manny T. Lopez, president of the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines, praised the City Council for hosting the tournament which aims to identify, recruit and train new talents for the national pool.

## Peñalosa-Hurtado showdown May 27

FORMER World Boxing Council super fly king Gerry Peñalosa, now trained by Buddy McGirt in Orlando, Florida, is slated to fight former IBF bantam challenger Reynaldo "El Doberman" Hurtado on May 27 possibly in Pompano, Florida.



PEÑALOSA

Reports from Florida indicated that the 32-year-old southpaw, who will be promoted by Murad Muhammad, is undergoing extensive training under McGirt and is in "the best possible shape" for his upcoming fight.

Peñalosa, who plans to return to

the Philippines after the fight, was scheduled to see action in the undercard of the Diego Corrales-Jose Luis Castillo war two weeks ago, but was scrapped from the card.

Dodie Boy Peñalosa, the former two-division world champ who trains his brother in the Philippines, had earlier said the fight with Hurtado been moved to July, but apparently Muhammad was able to snag an earlier date for his ward.

Peñalosa (48-5-2, 33 KOs), who holds the fringe World Boxing Foundation 115-lb crown, will stake his reputation against Hurtado, a native of Colombia, who boasts a 36-6-1 win-loss-draw record with 27 KOs. *Salven L. Lagumbay, contributor*

## Ganoy bags WBF title

AUSTRALIA-BASED Filipino Ramee Ganoy bucked a highly partisan hometown crowd to win the World Boxing Foundation Asia Pacific light-welterweight title Thursday with a ninth-round demolition of Australian Johnny Shefeeraw at

the Panthers World of Entertainment in Penrith, NSW, Australia.

WBF president Mick Croucher yesterday informed this writer that Ganoy stopped the Aussie at the 1:02 mark of the ninth. *Salven L. Lagumbay, contributor*

## Capulan tops duckpin meet

RENE Capulan of NSBA and Cess Ubaña of CADBA scored contrasting victories to rule the men's and ladies' singles event in the recent 39th Grand and 11th Youth national duckpin bowling championships at the Marketplace Center in Mandaluyong City.

Capulan routed Rene Glema, 242-203, while Ubaña struggled before winning over Rose Layoc in the stepladder finals.

Glema and Layoc advanced by beating Boying Magday, 122-108, and Janet Ocampo, 116-97, respectively.

NSBA W Lily and CADBA EJ bagged the men's and women's team titles.

Composed of Tony Manghaya, Rollie Abundo and team captain/manager Ricky Santos, NSBA W Lily IV nipped SR Bacolod, 332-331, while CADBA EJ, made up of Cess Ubaña, Len Len de Castro and Emmy Ariola and managed by Beth Pagkalinawan, toppled CADBA Slim, 308-280.

Gerry Ancheta whipped Vicky Paragas, 253-233, to win the seniors' crown while Vener Palma and Franklin Dychinco prevailed in the youth competition.

Palma subdued Joseph Ardales, 183-178, in the 10- to 13-year-old bracket while Dychinco beat Danajo Mabayan, 215-203, in the 14-16 category.

## Vizcaya slugfest May 24

AMATEUR boxing at its best will be one of the main features in the celebration of Panagya-man Festival 2005 in the province of Nueva Vizcaya on May 24.

The Go for Gold of the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines (Abap) will showcase the talents and skills of its finest male and female boxers in front of the Provincial Capitol starting at 7 p.m., according to event organizer SP board member Teodorico DP Padilla.

The event is supported by Gov. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Vice Gov. Jing Gambito, Mayor Pepito Baigo, Deputy Director General Edu Burgos and ABC President Amado Mangasana.















# Uzbek refugees afraid to return

**TASKENT, Kyrgyzstan**—Refugees who fled a crackdown by Uzbek troops said on Friday they dared not return home, and the United Nations backed up the claim on its demands for an inquiry into deaths believed to have taken place.

Western correspondents who travelled to a village near the epicentre of last week's violence, the town of Andkhan, saw fresh graves in which, local residents said, victims of the clashes between protesters and troops were buried.

President Islam Karimov has denied ordering troops to fire on civilians in Andkhan, but rejected a United Nations call for an international inquiry.

Asked about Karimov's refusal to allow an inquiry, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said: "Not to what consequences there might be, I think Uzbekistan does not want to submit further indication from the international community" that it held a news conference in Washington that the U.S. administration, which last year withheld \$1.1 billion in aid to Uzbekistan, would not be able to provide further evidence to verify progress on human rights and democratic

reform in the former Soviet republic.

Karimov's officials have blamed the violence on armed Islamic extremists.

"We heard they would finish us off in Andkhan as we decided to flee to Kyrgyzstan," said Khassan Shakhmatov, 25, whose said his two brothers had disappeared. "I will not return." He was among more than 500 people crammed into a small refugee camp inside Kyrgyz territory but just 150 metres (yards) from the Uzbek border. In interviews, they said they were ordinary people, not terrorists.

"I was running in the crowd to survive. Those who left the crowd were killed off by soldiers," said Rakhmatov Yussupov, a 41-year-old market trader, describing a chaotic border crossing during which he was wounded in the hip.

Karimov has said 100 people were killed when soldiers opened fire on Andkhan after what he called a "terrorist" uprising.

Officials say there were only seven or eight civilian deaths, describing the rest as police and rebels.

Refugees said more than 500 people were

killed by troops putting down a popular protest against the trial of 20 local businessmen and an outbreak of anger over Karimov's tough rule.

Western correspondents Dmitry Sokolov and several 20 fresh graves near the village of Begov Shikhan outside Andkhan which, locals said, contained the corpses of unidentified civilians severely beaten by soldiers after the Andkhan crackdown.

"This is the place they buried the unidentified bodies of people killed last Friday," said a local resident. "There are similar burials at the other end of the cemetery and in neighbouring places." Uzbekistan, with 20 million inhabitants the most populous state in ex-Soviet Central Asia, is an ally in U.S. President George W. Bush's war on terrorism. It hosts an American air base which serves as a waypoint for operations in Afghanistan.

A senior U.S. official said operations had been cut back in the wake of the unrest. "We have decided to make sure that we're confident about how we're operating," said General John Abizaid, head of U.S. Central Command. **Reuters**

## AUSTRALIAN singer

**Nylon Stratosphere**  
performs at the Brits  
Awards at 5pm  
Court in London in  
this February 30  
photo. Nylon has  
undergone  
successful surgery  
for early breast  
cancer at a  
rehabilitation hospital  
and now performs  
again May 21. **AP/Wide**

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... visitors must realize two people a  
... church. "The mission is the aim  
... also," he said.

... Isabelle acknowledged that a  
... understand the most serious disease  
... he has seen in his 20-year career.

... They have been accused by the  
... doctors on college campuses and re-  
... ceived threats at revealing situa-  
... tions, he said, which prompted  
... him to call a stand down in De-  
... cember to review false protection.

... "We are faced with very low  
... unemployment, the first time the  
... all volunteer force has been chal-  
... lenged to maintain local numbers.  
... I believe the total casualties are  
... up over 8,000," he said.

... "And I point out we now have  
... very, very low propensity to enlist  
... because the part of our young Amer-  
... icans, and therefore on the part of  
... Russians, and by that I mean par-  
... ents, coaches and other adults  
... whose opinions matter to our young  
... 17 to 24 year olds," he said. **AP**



**AN INDO-CHINESE student looks at a picture of Indonesia's former president Suharto while others examine each during a protest in Jakarta, May 21.**

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... deformations caused by previous  
... big quakes, the study said.

... In another study published in  
... Friday's edition of Science, Yale  
... University professor Jeffrey Park  
... said the quake's rupture started  
... giant slab of rock at least 20  
... km over a broad distance, equal  
... about to that between Florida and  
... New England.

... Park warned the tsunami no-  
... chance earthquake would contin-  
... ue to affect the region for many  
... years and could trigger more  
... large quakes. **Reuters**

















**ROUNDUP**

**Old bomb found**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - A 100-lb. bomb was found in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The bomb was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area. The bomb was found in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The bomb was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area.

**'Most dangerous man'**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - A man who was described as the "most dangerous" in the city of San Francisco, California, was found dead in a residential area. The man was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area. The man was found in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The man was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area.

**Salesgirl found dead**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - A salesgirl was found dead in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The salesgirl was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area. The salesgirl was found in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The salesgirl was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area.

**Child killed in fire**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - A child was killed in a fire in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The child was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area. The child was found in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The child was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area.

**Agri-tourism database**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - A database of agri-tourism sites in the state of California was created by the Department of Agriculture. The database was created by the Department of Agriculture. The database was created by the Department of Agriculture. The database was created by the Department of Agriculture.

**2 wanted men nabbed**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - Two wanted men were nabbed by police in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The men were found by a police officer who was patrolling the area. The men were found in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The men were found by a police officer who was patrolling the area.

**Michael building burned**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - A building named Michael was burned in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The building was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area. The building was found in a residential area in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The building was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area.

**Woman needs help**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - A woman needs help in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The woman was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area. The woman was found in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The woman was found by a police officer who was patrolling the area.

**9 nabbed for drugs**

**UNAP U.S. A&LS** (PH) - Nine people were nabbed for drug possession in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The people were found by a police officer who was patrolling the area. The people were found in the city of San Francisco, California, on Sunday. The people were found by a police officer who was patrolling the area.

# Ilocos consumers get rest from power rates

**AMONG CITY**—Power consumers in the province expect a temporary reprieve in their power bills as the Ilocos Electric Company (IEC) has approved a P2.176 per kWh reduction in its electricity rates for residential users. The IEC board approved the reduction on Sunday, May 10, after a meeting that was attended by representatives of the IEC's various divisions. The reduction is expected to take effect on May 15.

The power rates cut come on the heels of an impending rainy season. Power consumers were reportedly excited to see the IEC approve an intervention during this time. The IEC had previously announced that it would increase its rates to cover the cost of the rainy season. The reduction is expected to take effect on May 15.

The commission, however, has not yet ruled on the finding that the IEC has overcharged its consumers by P2.176 per kWh for the single year period since 1995.

**Inquiry**  
The alleged overcharging was a result of an inquiry that the Ilocos Electric Company conducted on its own. The inquiry was conducted by the IEC's various divisions.

The IEC is reportedly conducting an inquiry into whether its rates are fair. The IEC is reportedly conducting an inquiry into whether its rates are fair. The IEC is reportedly conducting an inquiry into whether its rates are fair.

Should the rates be confirmed, power users would be entitled to a rebate for eight years corresponding to the period that rates were high.

Under the IEC's plan, the P2.176 per kWh would be applied to all IEC's residential users. The IEC is reportedly conducting an inquiry into whether its rates are fair.

The reduction is 10 percent higher than the rate the IEC previously planned to be in last year.

The IEC applied for power rate cuts in January 2002. The IEC applied for power rate cuts in January 2002. The IEC applied for power rate cuts in January 2002.

normal rate of approximately P1.00 per kWh from the National Electric Power Administration.

The cooperative started implementing a promotional rate reduction of P2.00 per kWh in April last year at P2.076 per kWh after the P2.00 initially covered over P24 million from the cooperative's cash flow.

Based on the IEC's decision, how it impacted on the rates for consumers is an issue that is still being discussed. The IEC is reportedly conducting an inquiry into whether its rates are fair.

The school said that the reduction in power bills could help reduce the financial burden on the school. The school said that the reduction in power bills could help reduce the financial burden on the school.

**No more discounts**  
Despite the IEC's decision, the school said that it would no longer be able to provide a discount to its students. The school said that it would no longer be able to provide a discount to its students.

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**De La Salle University**  
Family Business Studies Center

The Family Business Studies Center (FBSC) of the De La Salle University Institute for Economic and Business Studies invites you to its seminar-workshops this June.

## Succession planning for family businesses

June 2 and 3, 9:00-12:00, Angeles King International Center  
**Dr. George Santiago**  
FBSC Director, Professor, Business Management Department, DLSU  
DLSU Family Business Institute and consultant  
**Ms. Ellen Cruz**  
Chairman/President, JSC Consulting, Inc. (President, JSC Consulting, Inc.)  
Chairman/President, JSC Consulting, Inc. (President, JSC Consulting, Inc.)

## Marketing Concepts and Applications for SMEs and Family Firms

June 6, 8:00-12:00, Angeles King International Center  
**Mr. Oscar Legman**  
Marketing Executive and Consultant, Professor, Graduate School of Business, DLSU

## Franchising for SMEs and Family Firms

June 15, 8:00-12:00, Angeles King International Center  
**Mr. Oscar Legman**  
Marketing Executive and Consultant, Professor, Graduate School of Business, DLSU

## Early bird and group discounts

Discounts will be given to those who confirm their attendance before May 27. Early discounts will also be given to those who register in groups. For inquiries and payment details, contact the Family Business Studies Center (FBSC) at 0203300 or 0203301 and look for Ms. Mail Arce in the FBSC. Address: Villamor Hall, DLSU. Or you may e-mail them at fbcs@dlse.edu.ph or fbcs@dlse.edu.ph

## P50-M fund allotted for forest project

**MANILA CITY**—The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has allotted a P50-million fund to support a forest project in the Philippines. The fund is intended to support the DENR's various divisions.

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INQUIRER *Mindanao*

## Euphoria over euphorbia

THE EUPHORBIA has become in demand because of its blooms.

By Angeline Dantes  
Makur, Samarang

Where flowers  
bloom, smiles bloom.

—Ladybird  
Johnson

SOME men who engaged in euphorbia growing six years ago became the subject of cruel jokes. Those days, those who used to tease them are growers themselves.

Euphorbia hybrids are considered to be among the latest "hot plants" of China and Southeast Asia. Commonly known as the "queen of flowers," because of their half-inch long stems, the plants have become popular because of

their large, showy blooms.

Euphorbia is an evergreen shrub with very showy green leaves and flowers. The stems are pinkish-red and are growing up to a height of two feet long, but it is much denser than most other plants.

Many growers have varieties of flowers and colors from red to white. In Makur, many small parts of the plant are used to become dominant in the market.

Other people propagate euphorbia because they are used to being properly and healthy.

Local varieties that are in demand include: red, orange and yellow, white, pink, red, white and blue, and white.

Each plant can be sold at P200 a piece. Fully grown ones cost P400 to P500 each, while other varieties are sold at P100 for three pieces.

#### Drake rules

According to an average estimate, euphorbia sales in Makur vary from 1,000 to 4,000 plants a day. It is an average price of P40 per plant, that's P16,000 to P160,000 per day.

Representatives in Makur and Makur come to the town to buy the plants. Some buyers export them.

In Makur, many residents have abandoned farming and turned to cultivation growing. Unlike corn or rice farming, which takes time to the months to harvest, euphorbia is grown in the field and harvested in just a few days.

In Makur, many residents have abandoned farming and turned to cultivation growing. Unlike corn or rice farming, which takes time to the months to harvest, euphorbia is grown in the field and harvested in just a few days.

Because of the surge in sales, some growers have started to dig up euphorbia in the field after office hours. They would be working around town, with children in the background for euphorbia that are in demand.

#### Big difference

Over the years, when one can see people playing "big" (a card game) or exchanging groups. These days, it is now open to euphorbia propagation.

The positive has helped family business. All household members help nurture the plants in their backyard.

Case: Calabid. Claimed that euphorbia growing, which he began in 1999, would be family business.

When his son and piggy started home in 2000, Calabid was about to sell his daughter to stop paying a mortgage.

In 2000, Calabid was already earning P20,000 monthly from euphorbia growing alone. Now he is earning at least P20,000 monthly.

He managed his neighbors to grow the plants instead of only selling them or farming.

As Makur is known for its tea, at first, it helped him, saying it was just a waste of time later after making profits, the man himself became a euphorbia enthusiast.

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# AIDS victim tells of healing ...

Continued from Page 1

Presenting for National Academy of Science and Technology award-winning research on the efficacy of virgin coconut oil as a cure for skin diseases, the president said, however, that already they have attracted an American politician in hopes of need to fund her upcoming book, "Coconut, the Better Inside Out."

## Government pledges

Dr. Weale Borell's still funded studies have only partially touched on the multi benefits of coconut, but already they have attracted an American politician in hopes of need to fund her upcoming book, "Coconut, the Better Inside Out."

Speaking for the government, Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap said that the findings from coconut levy is sufficient to fund research from government but more would be judiciously tapped for world-class research and further development plans that would benefit the coconut-producing country and its coconut-consuming people.

On the coconut's side, Vice President Jejomar Binay of Ateneo de Manila University's Department of Chemistry, affirmed that coconut is a natural-based quality value in pharmaceuticals and natural oil salts specific foods—and more.

## Business vs science

Dr. Filo capped the symposium by saying that despite his books disparaging allegations that coconut oil was bad for the heart and worsening the dangers of acidity with its other oils, the American Soybean Association insisted a powerful lobby to exonerate it in the battle for coconut health.

Armando Ibarra, head of Medical Medical Center's Department of the Neurology, appeared for research help support and urged the coconut industry to "continue support with coconut science with solid science."

## On Coconut

Dr. Armand Binay said he is a health health advocate, challenging the coconut to take the lead in pushing the coconut as a "virtuous medicine."

He said Filipinos that "you don't have the problems that we have" will be the first to witness, mature, and diabetes in the United States.

Binay, a health advocate, who was in the audience, promised to help make the coconut's natural oil source—oil as a natural-based quality value in pharmaceuticals and natural oil salts specific foods—and more.

As for Borell's effort, too, the government organization, NCI Philippines grant him an insurance



TEEN/CHINA by AIDS sufferer Tom (just his real name) needs the coconut of virgin coconut oil.



DR. WEALE BORELL

DR. ARMANDO BINAY

of a lifetime supply of his medicinal oil, and pledged to support others like him.

More on why coconut science can be read in Binay's book available in limited quantities from NCI Philippines 02-7232-897, or Binay's in his

book 090-898222, or from the website [www.philippinecoconut.com](http://www.philippinecoconut.com).

The Philippine Coconut Authority has just received deal with Binay to publish the Philippine edition of an available one for release in August 2010.



LIVING LAKES CONFERENCE. President Arroyo meets with local and foreign delegates to the LIVING LAKES CONFERENCE held recently in Tagaytay City.

# Int'l conservationists ...

Continued from Page 1

of LAL Living Lakes summit, which the event is held. The president said, "We will only do what we can do."

Mr. Arroyo said his work took time and from his busy schedule in Manila and elsewhere. But he has been in Manila to address the summit, and he has been in Manila to address the summit, and he has been in Manila to address the summit.

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The President even personally visited for what seemed like a coffee hour with both foreign and local conservationists, the said Philippine delegation reported.

Environment Secretary Michael Velasco said he welcomed the Living Lakes delegation. In his remarks, Mr. Velasco said the network for setting up "examples for the world which we can all learn from" and for "working together to make our (Living Lakes) program successful."

Mr. Velasco said the network and efforts are not only for the sake of the Philippines but also for the sake of the world.

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## Shel's story, too

Shel, 49, is one of Japan's International Lake Environment Committee members, the group behind Lake Biwa conservation of Lake Biwa, and the Japanese of the Lake Biwa of Lake Biwa.

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## Water source

The Japan River Agency International Airport general manager reported that the lake was "being used as the main water source of the lake for the lake."

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# New ring blockbuster: It's Taxman vs Pacman



**MANNY PACQUIAO** looking the fight of his life against the taxman. **BY JIM**



**MANNY** The taxman comes

by JIM

Man, man with ring sensation Manny Pacquiao.

In an assembly of a blockbuster, BIR Commissioner Guillermo Derosa has more to write Pacquiao a letter, asking him to put his income tax records on record.

A week ago, Pacquiao said jokingly he returned his appeal to the house to set himself up as an example of a needed taxpayer.

Look, the offer stands... you may not have carefully prepared your income payments, so please review it," Derosa would tell Pacquiao when the latter came to his office last week after returning from a US trip.

Pacquiao was asked to return to his office before the April 15 deadline for the filing of income taxes, telling the boxer that since he was declared by millions of Filipinos, he would greatly help the BIR's Run After Tax Payers (RATP) program by filing his income tax.

"Yes, this may well be a good indicator of good governance and we would like you to be a model of compliance. Come April 15, we want you to take the effort to declare your

taxes properly," Derosa said in his letter.

The BIR was the latest before Derosa, since he has formed teams to face investigations by the US Internal Revenue Service, which is also going after him for alleged unpaid taxes for a recent fight there.

In the same way, the BIR was helping show his personal life "exactly" from his papers. Derosa said the bureau was willing to do the same for Pacquiao, who had left it to his bookkeeper to file his income tax returns.

## Reason he lost fight

He said Pacquiao recently filed a criminal income tax declaration and BIR agents were still going over it.

Pacquiao said the BIR decided to go after Pacquiao after boxing him up that he lost the fight with Mexican Eric Morales in March because he was indirectly his problem with the BIR.

"When he lost, he said he was not physically prepared, but the problem was he was not 100 percent mentally fit because he had problems with the BIR. So it said if he had a problem with the BIR, he may have a problem with us, for he lost the fight," Derosa said.

Derosa is said to have paid the BIR \$100,000 after reportedly earning \$100,000 from the fight with Morales.

But BIR sources said Derosa also had to account for his income from 41 other fighters since 1995, as well as product endorsements.

Derosa is a proven endorser for Talk 'N Text and Smart cellular phones, Alcatel, T-Mobile, Sony, and other brands. He is also a proven endorser for "Beats" speakers, Sony, and other brands.

Derosa said Pacquiao might not be at fault, but his handlers could be.

"They have the responsibility to become wealthy because the youth look up to them and we want them to be worth looking up to," he said of Pacquiao and members of the entertainment industry.

The BIR is also going after boxers who lost fights at the BIR.

Derosa said the BIR would not agree to any compromise in the event Pacquiao was charged with tax evasion.

"Once the law is passed, there's no looking back," he said.

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# Sunday BIZ



**CHINING** Sagarbarria-Bustamante (extreme left) and her loyal staff continue her mother's passion for baking.

## Dame's recipes gave ...

From page B1

lived for many years, was recalled to Dumaguete, the capital of Negros Oriental, to manage the business.

"The choices were that we either hire someone to run the business or that I relocate to Dumaguete. It wasn't a difficult choice," says Chining, 42, who holds a degree in English and Public Relations from St. Paul University in Manila.

Aside from its loyal work force, Sans Rival is also proud of its loyal clientele. "Our clientele has been very supportive. When we were expanding the store, we thought the customers would stop coming because of the dust and noise, but they kept coming back," Chining says.

Now, with the doubled store space, 70 percent of their clients stay and enjoy their snacks inside the shop.

One of the family members also put up the House of Sylvanas in Metro Manila in the early 1970s and has since brought the business to Los Angeles, USA, offering basically the same line of pastries that made Sans Rival a byword among pastry lovers in Dumaguete.

Now, Chining plans to expand their menu further by serving lunch. "For our lunch menu, I will again be serving the recipes of my mother."

That should give Dumaguete food lovers something to look forward to.



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SAMSUNG Mobile



# Sunday LIFE STYLE

## The Swiss knife of electronic gadgets

By Rudi L. Pascua

**T**O SURVIVE and keep up in the hectic jungle, one must always have the right equipment. And Samsung's newly launched MM220 appears to be the device that you need.

Market claims to be the first of its kind in the market, and with good reason. This pocket director is a video clip-recording, still photos-taking, mp3-playing, voice-recording, downloading and web cam-connecting tool, music, email machine.

Mark Melly, director of "La Via Lactea" and "Crying Ladies," was recently given a week to play with it and facilitate himself with the functions.

"It helped me to be more creative and confident on so many things because of its portability (can put it in my bag), its simplicity. I want to use pre-visualize the shot I want," he says.

Melly admits that the special effects of MM220 can also be found in other cameras, but with a major difference. It's not as light as 150 g, the phone's weight is similar to that of a cigarette pack. Its length and height is at least the same size credit card.

It has 1 GB built-in shared memory that can store up to one hour of video or 10 hours of voice recording, which can still be extended with a memory card.

The video camera records in MPEG4 plus more performance. In playback mode, it means you can share audio and video over a wide range of bandwidths including cellphones and the Internet, on an almost professional-quality level.

### Amazing sound

Besides the camera, music video director RA Brown also enjoys the MP3 feature of the product. "I have the whole track of my band Kallalu in my pocket," he says to Filipinas. "The sound grabbing capability of MM220 is also not missing."

By including data storage among its features, this pocket director has addressed digital users' tendency to go against the natural rule of storing data (never trust your memory work like a thumb drive or a hard card). Now, you can store text documents, spreadsheets, PowerPoint presentations, etc. in your handy compact without worrying about damaging the memory card.

MM220 is a bit pricier, too, thinking about all the features that it can replace (which is worth it). Imagine putting your own camera without the hassle of choosing between the still and the video camera. You don't have to squeeze in your little MP3 player into your suitcase, either.

You can save the poverty of conversations you have with your loved one with the video recorder (you'll never know when recording them of precious moments during a vacation or even a birthday party). And if someone gets into trouble, you can chat on-line and see it on a webcam.

It comes in three colors—silver, dark blue and red. Then there's the sport version that comes in black and blue and is reflected. Says product manager Eric de Leon, "This is only the first generation (of MM220). We're working on with more products for the future."

Samsung president and CEO Kyushu Jeon says the product to help boost the brand's overall sales. "I want MM220 to do unexpected changes (in the market), to go one level up," he says.

Looks like it's time to do just that.

This pocket director is a video clip-recording, still photos-taking, mp3-playing, voice-recording, data-storing and web cam-connecting mean machine



SAMSUNG president Kyushu Jeon (center) with product manager Eric de Leon

PHOTO BY JIMMY L. LACOR



MM220 comes in silver, red and dark blue.





# Sunday LIFE STYLE

The Inquirer's e-mail is at [Webinfo@inquirer.com.ph](mailto:Webinfo@inquirer.com.ph)

View our great headlines  
anytime the speed dating coverage is  
open! (Monday to Friday 9am-5pm)

## Sure and quick date with Mr. Right, more or less



HAVE fun meeting new people...

### Loveless again?

Speed Dating gets you  
the right match

Text by Rene A. Jaramon  
Photo by Joseph Aguirre

PUT your best foot forward. Be quick but appear calm and confident. After all, there's only three minutes to make a knockout first impression on that dreamboat.

That's right. Meet that budge, grab that moment, whip out that pen and instantly go to your "Yes!" No risk offering him/her—who's got a handy notepad as well. In times where everything is fast and, well, easy Speed Dating is a fun alternative to the single bar scene.

Originally created by international Jewish educational network to keep single Jews from meeting outside their religious faith, Speed Dating has since been adopted by non-Jews and has gained popularity all over the world as one of the best ways to meet people. Here in the Philippines, Speed Dating (e-mail: [ds\\_Agencia@yahoo.com](mailto:ds_Agencia@yahoo.com), tel. 0922-8972882) has been organized by the La Laguna firm.

Events are private function rooms. Only participants are allowed entry to the event. Upon arrival at the workshop, attendees will receive each participant with a badge with their names and assigned numbers on it, plus a pen and a notepad. In the workshop are numbers, say 1-25, each with "yes" and "no" boxes.

Do the dance the same of that "Yes!" on the space provided, making sure it matches the number on his/her badge. If it does not match, you find it the worst a second date. Tell the "yes" box. If it's his happiness to tick on the "yes" box on you as well, then, well, you have got yourself a match.

"Three minutes is long enough to talk to a person and see if there's that connection, and short enough if you really don't like him/her," says the weekend-day matchmaker Endrean Greg, founder and head of the agency.

### Results

Results of matches will be sent through e-mail or SMS after two to three days. Only then will each be given personal information of the match, such as contact numbers or e-mail addresses. Prior to that, participants are discouraged to give away personal info such as cell phone numbers, addresses or occupations for personal security reasons. Calls from an unrecalled company can be irritating. Participants are advised to keep the conversation to general

0208-1/2



...DS makes it quite pretty when you're not having a good time.



THE MEN being propped on the role



SPEED dating is like applying for a job, only more casual



THE AUDIENCE may not be warm and romantic, but for those hot minutes, they say it's enough to serve its purpose—meeting proper Mr. Right.

# Sure and quick date with Mr. Right, more or less

From page 23

will like looking, like and like this, etc.

When Speed Dating kicked off a few months ago, people thought it was a perfect mixture of speed-dating to hook up with just about anyone, to the eventual Philippine version, the prospect of exchanging glances with someone in a crowded room during one-on-one meeting still makes up the theory because dozens of many connections flourish.

Soon, however, word of mouth spread that it was less about the "speed" factor than it was about

meeting people. So far, they say nearly 200 participants have joined, a good number of them already going out on dates together by the May 20, 21 single candle dates of 1000 Philippines are scheduled to participate. Some to follow are high school graduates and local universities.

"This is a professional way of meeting people, more like applying for a job through a resume-based," they say.

On a typical date, says Ong, people normally shell out about P1,000 for dinner, drinks, movies. If things don't go well, they are much with a location

meeting about. By joining Speed Dating, the says people get to meet about 20-25 singles in one night, and pay only P400-P500, depending on venue and location. There is always an equal number of men and women.

"It's like a fact if you want to find a special someone you'll meet now it's like, it's a win-win situation," they say.

## Systematic

Speed Dating is a systematic and organized way of meeting people. The rules, questions, and rules are followed, and when the time is right, he moves on to the next date. It's like a win-win situation, they say.

Speed Dating is a systematic and organized way of meeting people. The rules, questions, and rules are followed, and when the time is right, he moves on to the next date. It's like a win-win situation, they say.



HIGHER DAY: matchmaker Ferdinand Ong and his staff of female facilitators

at. The matchmaker presents candidates. In general, matches have all ways been made as soon as the matches are called, they say. While others are picking up the "yes" to a couple or no people, he says a few participants chose all

their bodies in one go, picking "yes" to all. Speed dating? Not really, he says. There are many ways to play your cards, and that is why it's just one meeting.

So, does it really take a more second to fall in love? In love

nothing is better in five right? In this game with the way life is, it's not really that simple.

Send the author at [quintanilla@philippines.com.ph](mailto:quintanilla@philippines.com.ph)



IT'S all about chemistry

## LEBANONIZO DEBATE

Leo Marie Eugenio Balamon recently celebrated his 100 birthday with a special dinner at the Hilton Hotel, New Orleans, Army Officer's Club, 1000 Boulevard.

The Lebanese is the youngest and only daughter of Leo and his late wife, M. Balamon. She is a graduate of the University of the Philippines, and she is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. She is also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

Leo was a 3rd and 4th ranking member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. He was also a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.



With a long history of excellence in education and research, the following information is provided for the purpose of providing information to the public. The information is provided for the purpose of providing information to the public.

## DANIELA GONZALEZ

And Daniela Gonzalez, one of the most talented and successful women in the Philippines, is a graduate of the University of the Philippines, and she is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.



FRANCIS MARCELO  
Francis Marcelo is one of the most talented and successful men in the Philippines, and he is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.



TUMLOS-GARCIA  
Tumlos Garcia is one of the most talented and successful men in the Philippines, and he is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.



## GO-YOUNG

Go Young is one of the most talented and successful men in the Philippines, and he is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.



MAWURO-DAMGA  
Mawuro Damga is one of the most talented and successful men in the Philippines, and he is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.



## DELAG-GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Delag Golden is one of the most talented and successful men in the Philippines, and he is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.



DELAG-GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY  
Delag Golden is one of the most talented and successful men in the Philippines, and he is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.



## SANDRINE TERRY

Sandrine Terry is one of the most talented and successful women in the Philippines, and she is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.





# Sunday LIFE STYLE Travel

Text us your feedback: Inquirer life  
name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

## Yankee in a daze over RP

Text and photos by  
**James J. Hevener**  
Contributor

**I**T NEVER occurred to me that my recent trip to the Philippines would be exciting.

I came with my girlfriend, Vanessa, and her mother, Evangeline. They were attending the wake of a very close relative, Evangeline's brother and therefore, Vanessa's uncle, who met an untimely death. I understand he was quite healthy.

It was my first trip to the country and I was very excited. After my Philippine sojourn, I can say I was thrilled more than ever, even writing this article because the trip was certainly something money cannot buy. It was worth all the time and the effort.

After the burial, (Tito) Dante set up a trip for us, for me, particularly, to see other parts of the country. Our destinations were Bohol, Sagada and the Banaue Rice Terraces.

I wished I had more time in my hand because those places were just wonderful. I had the feeling there could be other places in the Philippines just as beautiful as these.

I had to capture everything in my 35 mm camera because the sights were breathtaking. I couldn't afford to let go of them without storing them concretely.

Well, the pictures speak for themselves.

### Uniquely wonderful

The Banaue Rice Terraces were simply amazing. No wonder, it is considered the eighth wonder of the world. I could not

YANKEE C6



THE WRITER and girlfriend Vanessa





# Bankers explain why they have gone green

Janet I. Perez

**W**HP banks are two green activities were discussed at the recent forum on "The Greening of the Financial Sector."

It was the first, but long, seminar, held between the environment and finance, which made it all the more interesting and memorable. The seminar, according to the speakers, was the realization that environmental protection was beneficial to both financial institutions and their clients, based on the notion that "the environment matters and it matters a lot."

Environment matters because it is either the primary concern of issuing a business enterprise or it is an important component of operations. Conversely, it is not a liability to most. While it is not a business (public awareness and business in pollution, making it possible to reduce litigation, particularly financial costs).

Ray R. Torres, president and CEO of the Southeast Asia Bank (SEAB), presented the experience of his bank when it went into "green mode." It began with a study that showed air quality in Metro Manila exceeded ambient air limits. That industrial and business areas were not disposed of properly, and how these could lead to greater pollution.

It became apparent, he said, that there was need to strike a balance between the bank's development efforts and its commitment to protect the environment. Land bank opened special financial windows to help clients achieve cleaner production, and offered various credit facilities for environment-friendly projects and related technologies.

Torres said the bank was one of the financial agents of the National Office of Environment and Forestry (NOEF) through the National Finance Multi-Sector Fund (The 1997 National Finance Fund, signed by 24 countries, called for the phasing of all CFCs used in, among others, refrigeration and aerosol sprays).

The bank given for bank, Torres said, the opportunity to make major companies to get their green area together, especially to get rid of some depleting substances in their operations. It has also created billions to come to help 14 local government units improve their water and sewerage systems.

Since all this should be a continuous effort, SEAB offers several programs advocating the growing demand for environmental financing.

Edgardo R. Garcia, chief operating officer of the Development Bank of the Philippines, said DBP was the first to highlight environmental concerns for DBP that was the World Bank presented a circular program for the finance sector. The program aimed to increase the efficiency and competitiveness of Filipino industries. It required that loans granted would have a component addressing environmental concerns.

There presenters discussed and challenges for the bank, such as how to tell whether a project was environmentally friendly. So DBP started with its own people, conducting environmental screening programs to improve their understanding of environmental issues, a professional team and guidelines for the Environment Line Office and the Environment Performance Monitoring standards for internal use. It also developed guidelines to help identify environmental concerns in some sectors efforts in monitoring environmental programs.

In time, environmental assessment came to mean naturally and become even more ambitious, after designed a program to provide financial credits and technical assistance for environmental investments. It helped open credit facilities with funding from foreign sources such as Asian Bank for International Cooperation and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

The bank is also launching a new program, the SEAB Force, that aims to help government in its formation, and make conservation efforts by collaborating with other institutions and organizations in reducing their own while providing income generating opportunities.

## EDD and EP

During the forum, two phrases were often heard because they are important parts of green banking operations...the Environment and Development (EDD) and the Equitable Principles (EP).

Torres highlighted, senior assistant vice president, DBP environmental unit, defined EDD as an investigation process that asked companies like creditable developers, manufacturers, insurance firms, banks, etc.) identify potential sources of human environmental risks and liabilities in an early stage, thus protecting the company's profitability. Environmental institutions, EDD means environmental screening of proposed investments by commercial banks, pension funds, mutual funds, municipal and private portfolio managers, and credit rating agencies. EDDs are used to measure environmental risks.

EP on the other hand, is an industry approach for financial institutions in determining, assessing and managing environmental and social risks in project financing. A statement of guidelines is now developed by leading financial institutions, based on standards set by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and applied globally to development projects with certain social risks. Information is often provided by Green C. Inquiries of the Bangkok School of Finance, made it possible to adopt strategies to such as: as financial records, financial and credit risk, public relations and marketing. Borrowers were encouraged to include their guid-

## SEEING GREEN

Doris Goodell Noyes



focus on the design and execution of projects.

Other speakers touched on environmental problems that showed that banking and it money were not too far removed from environmental issues. One could even say they were inseparable side in monitoring and assessing development projects.

## Goals

The 10th Living Lakes Conference was held in Taguig City. It was hosted by the Global Living Lakes Foundation (GLLF), an independent, non-profit organization, based in the United States. The conference was held in the Philippines, under the leadership of Legaspi Lake Development Authority under

general manager Rolando C. Biondo.

Legaspi Lake is the 10th lake in the Global Living Lakes Foundation's list of lakes important to environment and social life of a people and their environment. Legaspi has 24 months in participation.

The 10th Living Lakes Conference was the second annual meeting of its kind organized by the Philippine National Oil Company-Energy Development Corporation (PNOC-EDC) as part of its social commitment to its local communities and to 1,200 students in its first public school field trip. The school study in public schools that serve the communities.

The camp aimed to provide the youth access to activities they would otherwise not experience or afford. They learned environmental practices, sports and outdoor activities, even social games. There were lessons on environmental energy and plant trees.

The camp was held in a vast area in Bantay, Leyte, North Cebu and Negros Oriental.

Find the author at [dnoyes@phila.com](mailto:dnoyes@phila.com)



**LEASPI BANK CEO** Rolando C. Biondo says the bank is committed to striking a balance between its development efforts and its commitment to protect the environment.

